

RESOLVED THAT STATES SHOULD SURRENDER THEIR RIGHTS TO THE  
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

A few points on the negative side are as follows:

1. States Rights has been a tradition in this country and it would be calamitous to deprive the States of their present rights. This is the main issue over which the Civil War was fought, and to abolish all rights of the States and surrender them to the National Government would not be at all in keeping with our past history.
2. The National Government would become too dictatorial. Our Federal Government has most too much authority at present and if it should be given additional powers it might assume an arrogant attitude toward the respective States.
3. This country was founded on the principles that each State should be an independent sovereign operated under a separate government and that no central government should ever completely control this nation.
4. This country has made tremendous growth and progress under the present system of allowing the States their independence and to change this system would be an innovation and a poor experiment--it might function and it might not.
5. The United States was discovered by persons seeking liberty and independence and their descendants in whose veins the same blood courses also love liberty and freedom and the great masses of these people would object to abolishing the rights of the States and surrender the same to the National Government and this would undoubtedly create discontent, dissatisfaction and might bring about uprisings and revolutions.
6. The same laws and regulations suitable to one State or one section of the country might not be so adaptable to another State or another section. The ideals, traditions, ambitions and desires of the people in different States are not altogether similar and climatic and soil conditions are also different, therefore each State should be allowed to regulate itself in the manner best suited to the particular State.
7. What we need today is less government instead of more government. Thomas Jefferson once said, "the least governed people are the best governed people." Should the States surrender their rights to the National Government undoubtedly the regulations and laws would be greatly increased and become more exacting and would tend to antagonize the States of the nation and create unrest instead of producing a more amalgamated nation.
8. If the States surrender their rights to the National Government they will never have the same returned although the arrangement would be unsatisfactory. This is the history with rights and laws heretofore given by the States to the National Government, and even though satisfaction should not prevail the Federal Government is so powerful that it would be almost impossible to replace the same.